UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/51/57
27 January 1997

Fifty-first session
Agenda item 38

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/51/L.52 and Add.1 and A/51/L.54)]

51/57. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/5 of 13 October 1993 on observer status for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe[1] signed on 26 May 1993, as well as its resolution 50/87 of 18 December 1995 on cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling also the declaration at the 1992 Helsinki Summit by the heads of State or Government of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of their understanding that the Conference is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and as such provides an important link between European and global security,[2]

Acknowledging the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning and preventive diplomacy, including through the activities of the High

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[1] See A/48/185, annex II.

[2] See A/47/361-S/24370, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-seventh Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1992, document S/24370.

Commissioner for National Minorities, crisis management, arms control and disarmament, post-crisis stabilization and rehabilitation measures, and its efforts in supporting the economic dimension, as well as its crucial role in the human dimension,

Welcoming the meeting held on 15 and 16 February 1996 on the invitation of the Secretary-General between the United Nations and the regional and other organizations, and noting the importance of continuing and further developing the practice of convening such meetings,

Recalling the special ties between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation,

Underlining the continued importance of enhanced coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. Also welcomes the progress in common work in the field between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

3. Further welcomes the Summit Declaration and the decisions adopted by the heads of State or Government of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on 3 December 1996 at Lisbon, in particular the Lisbon Declaration on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the Twenty-first Century, which, as such, complements the mutually reinforcing efforts of other European and transatlantic institutions and organizations in this field;

4. Commends the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for the fulfilment, in cooperation with the United Nations, of the role assigned to it by the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto[4] (collectively, "the Peace Agreement"), in particular for:

(a) The successful supervision of the preparation and the conduct of the elections held on 14 September 1996;

(b) The monitoring, together with other international organizations, of the development of human rights standards;

(c) The support offered to the Human Rights Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(d) The agreements concluded under its auspices on confidence- and security-building measures, as well as on subregional arms control;

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[3] A/51/489 and Add.1.

[4] A/50/790-S/1995/999; see Official Records of the Security Council, Fiftieth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1995, document S/1995/999.

5. Welcomes the decision of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to continue its engagement in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to contribute to the building of democratic structures and to the fostering of civil society, including the promotion of human rights standards, and welcomes in this context further cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

6. Underlines the responsibility of the parties to organize free and fair municipal elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in this regard, welcomes the confirmation that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe will supervise the preparation and conduct of those elections;

7. Welcomes the readiness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to continue to contribute in and around Bosnia and Herzegovina to regional stabilization and, also in accordance with the Peace Agreement, to assist the implementation of the agreements on confidence- and security-building measures, on subregional arms control, as well as to promote negotiations on regional arms control;

8. Also welcomes the readiness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to support the Human Rights Office in Sukhumi, Georgia, which forms part of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia;

9. Fully supports the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict in and around the Nagorny Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, and welcomes cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this regard;

10. Welcomes the intensified cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe over the past year, for example in Tajikistan, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, in the provision of human rights training courses in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in collaboration on the subject of the return and reintegration of refugees and other involuntarily displaced persons in countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States;

11. Supports the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe aimed at contributing to stability and the maintenance of peace and security within its region, and stresses the importance of the work done by its field missions;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to continue exploring with the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and on the basis of the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,[1] avoiding as much as possible duplication and overlapping in those areas where both organizations have their own respective roles to play;

13. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe", and requests the

Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

81st plenary meeting
12 December 1996